

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 13, line 14 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 3A is a diagrammatic representation of one example of an interconnection controller 230 for facilitating various aspects of the present invention. According to various embodiments, the interconnection controller includes one or more protocol engines 305 configured to handle packets such as probes and requests received from various clusters of a multi-processor system. The functionality of the protocol engine 305 can be partitioned across several engines to improve performance. In one example, partitioning is done based on packet type (request, probe and response), direction (incoming and outgoing), or transaction flow (request flows, probe flows, etc).

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 13, line 14 with the following paragraph:

According to some implementations of the invention, an interconnection controller mailbox register that provides a mechanism by which commands, data and/or transactions may be injected according to, for example, an intra-cluster protocol used for transactions between an interconnection controller and other nodes in a cluster. If such transactions involve communication with other clusters, the transactions may be converted to an inter-cluster protocol for communication between interconnection controllers in different clusters. One example of such an inter-cluster protocol is described in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/635,884, attorney docket no. NWISP039, which is hereby incorporated by reference for all purposes. The inter-cluster protocol may be the same as, substantially the same as, or substantially different from the intra-cluster protocol.